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**JOURNAL OF THE  
BARBER COIN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY**

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Volume 25



Number 4

**2014**

**1904 Liberty Nickel with Extra Stars**



**Deliberately altered? You decide.**

**See page 15**





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JOURNAL OF THE  
BARBER COIN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY

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Founded in 1989 by Steve Epstein  
ANA Club Member C-146266

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## BCCS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I didn't expect to write a message for the last issue of 2014, but I was asked to do so by Eileen and couldn't refuse. She is the person who has done the greatest quantity of work for the BCCS. She is the name a member contacts when he/she wishes to join the Society, ask a question, or with other pursuits I can't identify.

I have never met Eileen as I expect most all our members haven't either. She was a gift to our organization; I didn't realize how great her gifts would be.

I remain a committed member of the Barber Society and believe we have new leadership which will energize this organization.

Numismatic regards,  
*Phil Carrigan*

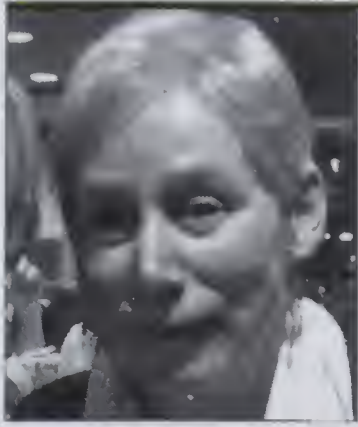


### **BCCS Journal Back Issues Discount for Members**

As the *Journal* wraps up its 25th year, we are again offering members the opportunity to obtain back issues at discounted savings. You can request specific ones or a certain number starting with the earliest available or with the most recent counting backward. Not all issues are available.

You can order: 1 to 25 issues @ \$2.00 each  
26 to 50 issues @ \$1.50 each  
51+ issues @ \$1.25 each

Please contact Eileen by email, mail or phone if you are interested in purchasing one or several back issues.



## BCCS EDITOR'S MESSAGE

This is an exciting time for the Barber Society. Changes are being made that will only strengthen it and you are being asked to participate in them. Tucked inside this issue is a ballot which allows you the opportunity to vote for or against the proposed club by-laws and candidates nominated to lead the Society for the next two years. Please respond by Feb. 28th.

Also, please look over the articles listed on our annual Literary Contest ballot and vote for the one(s) you enjoyed the most. To have your vote count, email or mail in your ballot by Feb. 28th. Winners will be announced in the Vol. 26, No. 1 *Journal*.

Those of you whose BCCS membership is about to expire will also find a 2015 membership renewal form enclosed. Please send in your 2015 dues as soon as possible.

This is likely my last message as editor of the *Journal* and I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who sent in material over the past fourteen years. If you've been contemplating submitting an article, letter or photo, I hope you will do so this coming year. The *Journal* is always in need of your input.

I have enjoyed my time with the Barber Coin Collectors' Society very much and am confident it will continue to grow and thrive within the numismatic community. As 2014 comes to an end, I wish each and every one of you happiness, good health and prosperity in the New Year!

### THE JOURNAL NEEDS YOUR ARTICLES!

Your article submission(s) automatically enters you in the BCCS Literary Contest. The article receiving the most member votes will win a 1st place prize of \$50. Second place prize will be \$25 and third place will be a free one year BCCS membership. So, make sure your membership is up to date and get your article to Eileen at the post office or e-mail address on page 3.

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS Feb. 24th**

# BCCS Transition

By the **BCCS Transition Committee**

As was announced in the last issue of the *Journal*, BCCS President Phil Carrigan and Secretary-Treasurer/Editor Eileen Ribar announced their upcoming retirement. At the annual BCCS meeting at the ANA this past August, a Transition Committee was formed with the following purpose:

- Create a set of comprehensive, but simple, By-laws
- Create an election process for new officers
- Perform a search for potential candidates for both officer and *Journal* Editor positions.

Over the past several months, a set of By-laws was drafted (pulling from existing by-laws of other numismatic clubs and editing to suit BCCS needs). The draft By-laws were reviewed and edited several times within the Transition Committee, with some additional review within the BCCS. At the BCCS meeting in Baltimore, the draft By-laws were presented to the attendees for reaction, feedback, and suggestions. A couple of final edits were made, and now the final proposed By-laws are presented for approval - by election ballot by the membership. The text of the proposed By-laws follows this summary in their entirety, and members are requested to read them and approve them on the enclosed ballot, to be returned to outgoing Secretary-Treasurer Eileen Ribar.

For filling the new officer and *Journal* Editor positions, the Transition Committee asked for suggestions or nominations for all officer positions, and/or volunteers or suggestions for the important non-elected position of *Journal* Editor. An announcement was also placed in the E-Sylum (weekly email publication of the Numismatic Bibliomania Society), soliciting for persons interested in the position of *Journal* Editor.

We are glad to report that we have two potential candidates for the *Journal* Editor position and, in the coming weeks, interviews will be conducted and a selection made. We are also glad to report that we received nominations for all three officer positions, as defined in the proposed By-laws. All three candidates have accepted their nominations, and thus form the recommendation of the Transition Committee. All candidates are running unopposed, although the election Ballot allows for write-in votes as well.

The list of candidates and a brief bio of each follow.



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## Action Requested:

BCCS members are asked to vote for each officer position on the enclosed Ballot. You may select either the nominated candidate for each office or write in another BCCS member as an alternate.

BCCS members are also requested by the Transition Committee to approve the new By-laws, as presented below in their entirety. The Ballot will allow you to **Approve** or **Reject** the By-laws as written.

The election and approval of the By-laws will be by simple majority. BCCS members are requested to return their Ballots to outgoing Secretary-Treasurer Eileen Ribar at the address specified on the ballot as soon as possible, but **no later than February 28**.

The By-laws will take affect (assuming they are approved) and the new officers will take office immediately following the election deadline, on March 1, 2015.

## Officer Candidates

The following bios and photos are provided for the nominated slate of officers, each running unopposed.

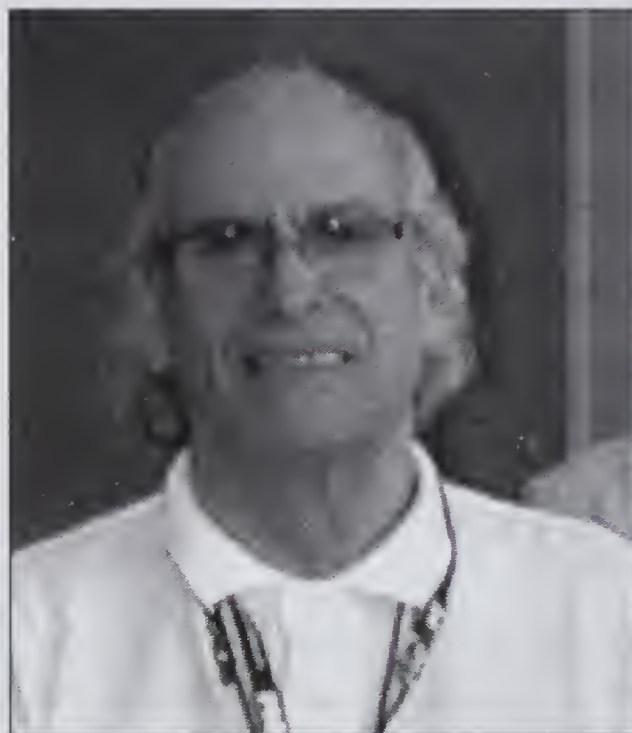
### **Secretary-Treasurer:** Dave Earp (Illinois)

Dave has been a collector most of his life and a member of the BCCS for over eight years. During that time he has been on the committees for the Barber Quarter and Barber Half Surveys, and was instrumental on the Barber Quarter Varieties Survey. Dave also served on the Transition Committee. He collects Barber dimes, quarters, and halves, but his main interest is quarters and their varieties. He has helped with club tables at the FUN show as well as ANA conventions, and promoted the Society at several local shows in his area. He would appreciate your support for the office of Secretary-Treasurer.



**Vice President:** Carl Feldman (New Jersey)

A member of the BCCS for 20 years, Carl is a fixture within the Society. A regular attendee at most large shows east of the Mississippi, Carl has assisted the BCCS Regional Program for years, by contributing at meetings, helping at numerous shows, staffing the club table and promoting the Society to collectors and dealers alike. Carl also takes his experience and creativity gained from multiple clubs and is suggesting improvements to membership – for both new members and member retention. In a similar role, Carl is Membership Chair of the Liberty Seated Collectors Club. Carl actively collects Barbers in high circulated grades, and enjoys sharing his experiences with other BCCS members.



**President:** John Frost (Massachusetts)

John has been a member of the BCCS for 15 years, and has played numerous roles in the organization. Creating and maintaining the BCCS Website since 2004, John also chaired the Census and Rarity Survey studies for each of the four series from 2006-2009. With help from a number of Regional Directors, John launched the Regional Program to expand the reach of the Society across the country, to introduce new collectors to the BCCS, increase membership, expand our educational program, and provide increased value to our members. More than a dozen meetings and/or club tables now take place yearly around the country. John collects all Barbers, but is most passionate about quarters, displaying his Barber Quarter set multiple times in ANA Exhibits.





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# Barber Coin Collectors' Society

## By-Laws

Final Version as recommended by the BCCS Transition Committee  
To be presented to the Membership for Approval  
2014 December 1

### ARTICLE I: NAME

A. The name of the club shall be Barber Coin Collectors' Society (hereafter called the "Society").

### ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

The Society is a non-profit numismatic and educational organization, with the following purpose:

- A. Promotes the writing and sharing of information on Barber coins to individuals who are interested in increasing their knowledge of the coins designed by Charles E. Barber.
- B. Gives Barber hobbyists an opportunity to contact other collectors with similar numismatic interests.
- C. Can promote consistent grading standards among collectors, dealers, society members and non-members alike.
- D. Effectively lobbies numismatic shows and events to provide Barber exhibits and space for all Barber dealers to sell their merchandise.
- E. Promotes the collecting of Barbers and the hobby in general to today's youngsters.
- F. Offers benefit to all Barber collectors.
- G. Provides an organization that ensures its members have a say in the Society.
- H. Is a not-for-profit organization dedicated solely to the benefit of its members and those who assist the Society in advancing its purpose.

### ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

- A. Eligibility - Membership shall be open to anyone.
- B. Dues – Dues will be determined by the Officers of the club (see Article IV), and membership dues for the current year must be paid to the Secretary-Treasurer.

C. Any new person joining the Society after July 1 will be required to pay one-half of the annual dues for the remainder of the year. Optionally, any new members joining after August 1 and paying the full annual dues will have their membership include the following calendar year.

D. Failure to pay dues – Any member that fails to pay their dues by April of the current year shall be terminated as an active member of the Barber Coin Collectors' Society by the officers and placed in inactive status. They may rejoin at any time by paying the full year's dues.

E. The Fiscal Year of the Society shall run from January 1 to December 31.

## **ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS**

A. Officers – The officers of the Barber Coin Collectors' Society shall consist of a President, Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer. No individual member may hold more than one of these positions at a given time. The officers may propose additional officer positions by amending the By-Laws, with approval of the membership.

B. Board of Directors – The officers of the Barber Coin Collectors' Society shall serve as its Board of Directors, and shall manage and control the Society's affairs, finances, business, and property.

C. Eligibility – Officers must be an active member in good standing of the Society.

D. Election – The officers shall be elected by ballot distributed to the membership. Only members in good standing may nominate a person for an office, or cast a vote.

E. Term of Office – The officers shall serve for a term of two (2) years, and their term shall begin immediately following the election date. There is no limit to the number of consecutive terms a person can be elected to hold an office. At the end of their elected term, if not re-elected, officers must turn over all records, monies, papers, or other property of the Society to their respective replacements.

F. Vacancy – If a vacancy occurs in the office of President, the Vice-President shall assume the office for the remainder of the term. Vacancies in any other office shall be filled by appointment by the other officers.

## **ARTICLE V: DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

A. President – It shall be the duty of the President to preside at the Annual Meeting, appoint special committees or task forces, and represent the Society at functions, meetings, and special events. The President also represents the Society for press inquiries or interviews, or appoints a stand-in when needed or appropriate.



B. Vice-President – It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to preside in the absence of the President, and serve as a member of the Board of Directors in the management of the Society.

C. Secretary-Treasurer – It shall be the duty of the Secretary-Treasurer to maintain a roster of both current members in good standing as well as past members in the Society. The Secretary-Treasurer shall also have custody of the funds of the Society, shall maintain a bank account in the name of the Society, and shall have supervision of the account pertaining to all receipts and disbursements, making only such payments as approved by the Board of Directors. The Secretary-Treasurer shall, when required by the Board of Directors, submit financial reports to the Board of Directors and the members.

**ARTICLE VI: THE JOURNAL**

The primary publication of the Society is the *Journal of the Barber Coin Collectors’ Society*. It is published quarterly, or at a frequency determined by the Board of Directors.

The *Journal* Editor has the following duties:

- Receiving articles and content for publication.
- Publishing the *Journal* and mailing to the membership list and other subscribers, as provided by the Secretary-Treasurer.
- Mailing back issues purchased by members after payment has been received by the Secretary-Treasurer.

**ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS**

A. Annual Meeting – There shall be a Meeting held once each year to provide the assembled membership with updates on the Society, to be provided by the officers. These updates, at a minimum, include a President’s Report highlighting club initiatives and accomplishments for the prior year, and a Secretary-Treasurer’s Report with a financial report.

B. Quorum – At least two officers must be in attendance. Otherwise, no Quorum is required to hold the Annual Meeting.

C. Additional meetings – Any member of the Barber Coin Collectors’ Society may host a meeting or club presence to promote the club, using materials provided by the officers and committees.

## **ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS**

A. Recommendations – Any member in good standing of the Barber Coin Collectors' Society may recommend an amendment to the By-Laws by presenting to one of the officers.

B. Selection and Notice – The officers will review any suggested change to the by-laws, and will discuss and decide which ones have merit. Those brought forward to the membership for consideration will be published in the Journal prior to any approval vote by the membership.

C. Approval – Voting for amendments will either be conducted in person at the Annual Meeting, or at any other time via mailed and/or electronic ballots at the discretion of the officers.

## **ARTICLE IX: DISBANDMENT OF THE SOCIETY**

A. Disbandment/Dissolution – An order to disband or dissolve the Barber Coin Collectors' Society can be made by any remaining officer(s) of the club, and voted on by any remaining active members. It will pass by two-thirds majority vote.

B. Cash or Property – Upon disbandment of the Society, any cash or property owned by the club after all bills have been paid shall be donated to the American Numismatic Association or other non-profit numismatic association.

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# Barber Bits

## Late Die State 1892 Barber Dime

E-mail to the editor:

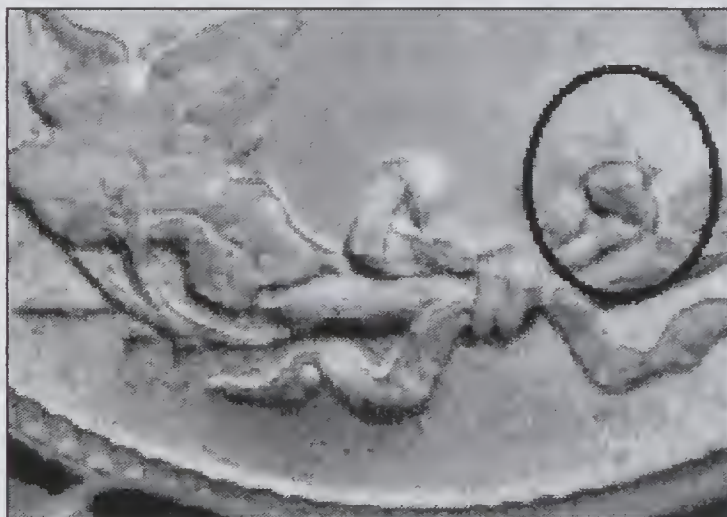
*My name is Grant Barlow and I am an avid coin collector. I have attached photos of an 1892 Barber dime which is graded MS 63 by PCGS. I thought you might like to see it since it's unusual with all the die pits. I believe it to be a very late die state. Just how late is the question.*

*After I purchased it, I noticed a lump of metal above "LIBERTY" in her cap, then a lot more lumps on the reverse. I have included two sets of pics: one with the lumps circled and the other without, for better viewing. The reverse has many die cracks as well. Have you ever seen this die state with so many pits in both dies? I am hoping that it's a terminal die state due to all the problems.*

*Do you think it's worth more than MS 63 money? Not trying to sell, just very interested. I found your name in the Barber collectors society and hoped you might be interested and could help.*

*Have a great day!  
Grant*





Initial comments from John and Steve:

*I've never seen a dime with those lumps. Steve is our Varieties Coordinator, and perhaps he'll have some insights. I expect it's a late/terminal die state. I have an 1892 dime of my own I purchased recently, with other blobs from several small breaks/cuds on the obverse, but they are in different places. I have to re-look at the coin, and take some pics, but it is definitely different from yours.*

*I expect somebody interested in varieties/errors might pay a little more than generic MS63 money for something like that, but I'm not positive, and if so, I have no idea how much of a premium. Let's see if Steve has any ideas.*

*- John Frost*



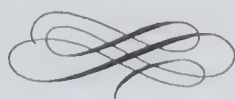
*Looks like a nice late die state example, and as Grant noted is likely among the very last struck from that obv/rev set.*

*I doubt it's worth a premium though, as die cracks, cuds, etc. are pretty common overall, but are interesting nonetheless!*

*Looks like a nice original coin in its own right, and maybe Grant would like to pen a brief article on it for the Journal.*

*Steve H.*





## 1904 Liberty Nickel with Extra Stars?

The following link will take you to a Coin Community Forum discussion about a Barber Nickel which has extra stars:

<[http://www.coincommunity.com/forum/topic.asp?TOPIC\\_ID=187125#187125](http://www.coincommunity.com/forum/topic.asp?TOPIC_ID=187125#187125)>

The photos which appear early in the discussion are from the eBay seller.

Ordinarily, such questions about an 'error' coin are immediately met with the answer 'Post Mint Damage (PMD)' but this coin has folks sitting on the fence. If produced at the Mint, how did it happen? And if produced outside the Mint, what was the method?

The CCF is a serious online group made up of thousands of members all over the world. And this debate has drawn some of the most expert members. Never have I seen such a body of experts stumped. So I have obtained permission from the owner to ask for your opinions. The group is open to everyone for viewing. Members join if they wish to ask questions or add comments.

Because it is a Barber Nickel it fits into our format. The marriage of traditional print media and the Internet has been a pet project of mine. To bring our guys into the debate would be the goal: both sources of information sharing ideas. Just a dream of mine.

Matthew Student



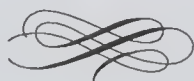
## Dave Lawrence Barber Books now On-line at DLRC Website

All three David Lawrence Barber coin books - The Complete Guide to Barber Dimes, The Complete Guide to Barber Quarters, and The Complete Guide to Barber Halves, as well as The Complete Guide to Certified Barber Coinage by David Lawrence & John Feigenbaum - are available at the DLRC on-line library website: <http://www.stellacoinnews.com/>. Click on "Reference Books" and scroll down to the book title you want. Access is free. No membership required.

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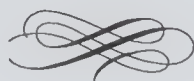
## BCCS “blind” Email List

The BCCS web service has the capability to send messages using a “Blind Carbon Copy” setting, which means everyone on the list gets the email, but nobody’s email address is displayed. The advantages to having such a list include the ability to post last-minute BCCS get-togethers at regional shows and other types of Society communications, if needed, without having to wait for the next issue of the Journal. It is completely voluntary, and is open to members only. If you wish to be on this list, please send an email to: [BCCS@BarberCoins.org](mailto:BCCS@BarberCoins.org) and your name will be added. Your information will not be disclosed to anyone, and you will only receive email regarding BCCS business from the BCCS email account.



## “Show and Tell”

The latest addition to the Ribar Barber collection - an 1895-S Half Dollar purchased on eBay. If you have a Barber you’d like to share, send in a photo.



## Barber Barter

**For Sale:** *Journal of the Barber Coin Collectors Society* Vol I, #1 & #3 (Spring & Fall issues of 1989). These issues are in mint condition. Price: \$30 for the pair or \$20 for #1 and \$15 for #3.

Contact Phil Carrigan by Email: [philrph1892@cs.com](mailto:philrph1892@cs.com). Provide a mailing address and issues of interest.



## 1898-S Barber Not Great, but Hard to Find

By Paul M. Green

Finding a coin that everyone has overlooked is fun. It does not happen often because coin prices tend to be very accurate reflections of the availability of most issues. When a coin seems too cheap or too expensive, the prices are rarely wrong when you factor in demand.

It is unusual to find seemingly wrong prices in a Barber quarter set. The set prices are upgraded regularly. In the past few years we have seen 1896-S pass the 1913-S in Mint State. Historically, the 1913-S, with a mintage of just 40,000, has been viewed as better than the 188,039 mintage 1896-S. However, the grading service totals concluded that the 1896-S was less often seen than the 1913-S.

No other Barber quarters were considered to be in the same class as the 1901-S, 1913-S and 1896-S. They were the three key Barber quarters. In some grades, this is still the case. The 1898-S is that surprise date that makes every price look suspect.

The 1898-S was a good, not great, Barber quarter. It had a mintage of 1,020,592, which is much more than the 1896-S or 1913-S. It is not a high total, though.

There were not a lot of collectors and dealers back in the 1890s who would save examples of a seemingly better date. In fact, there is little evidence of anyone saving examples of any silver issues. Collectors got new dates from circulation and, since there were few buyers, dealers did not save an extra roll of a new issue.

That may explain why the 1896-S is so tough in top grades. What it does not explain is why the 1898-S is even tougher.

The 1898-S was not saved because there were almost no collectors to save examples for their sets. If someone was collecting Barber quarters at the time,

there is a good chance they were collecting only by date.

In MS-60, the 1896-S is currently at \$8,000 while the 1898-S lists at just \$400. At \$7,200 in MS-65, the 1898-S is less in MS-65 than the 1896-S is in MS-60. Based on the big mintage difference, that might seem fair.

What becomes surprising are the grading service totals. Numismatic Guaranty Corporation has seen the 1896-S in Mint State a total of 24 times, while the 1898-S has been seen a total of 21 times. The Professional Coin Grading Service has seen the 1896-S in Mint State 29 times, while the 1898-S has appeared 23 times.

In fairness, the numbers are not conclusive. The 1896-S could still be tougher. Perhaps more examples of the 1898-S have yet to be sent in for grading. This is possible considering the lower 1898-S prices.

While it is possible that the 1896-S is still tougher in Mint State, the two appear to be very close in population numbers. This may seem surprising considering their large price differences.

The two dates were produced two years apart at the same facility. It is natural that the number saved at the time would be similar. Today, a lower mint-age date might be hoarded, but this was the 1890s in San Francisco. There were few, if any, collectors and dealers to save examples of the two dates. Their similar surviving totals should come as no surprise.

It is not certain that the 1898-S will suddenly jump in price, but if you want a good deal on a sleeper, the 1898-S might be the coin for you.

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*Editor's note: The following chart gives a comparison of the prices quoted for the date, mintmark, and grades mentioned in Paul Green's June 19, 2007 article and those given in the November 2014 Numismatic News "Coin Market."*

| June 2007 article           | November 2014 "Coin Market" |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1896-S in MS-60 - \$8000.00 | \$9750.00                   |
| in MS-65 - not given        | \$50,000.00                 |
| 1898-S in MS-60 - \$400.00  | \$395.00                    |
| in MS-65 - \$7200.00        | \$7950.00                   |



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# BCCS Regional Update

By **John Frost**, BCCS Regional Program Director

This fall was an especially busy time for the BCCS at coin shows around the country. In September, Glenn Holsonbake co-hosted a joint BCCS-LSCC Social at the Rock Bottom Brewery in **Long Beach**. The largest crowd in a while, thirteen people, enjoyed an evening of camaraderie and discussion of both Barber and Seated coinage. See photo below.



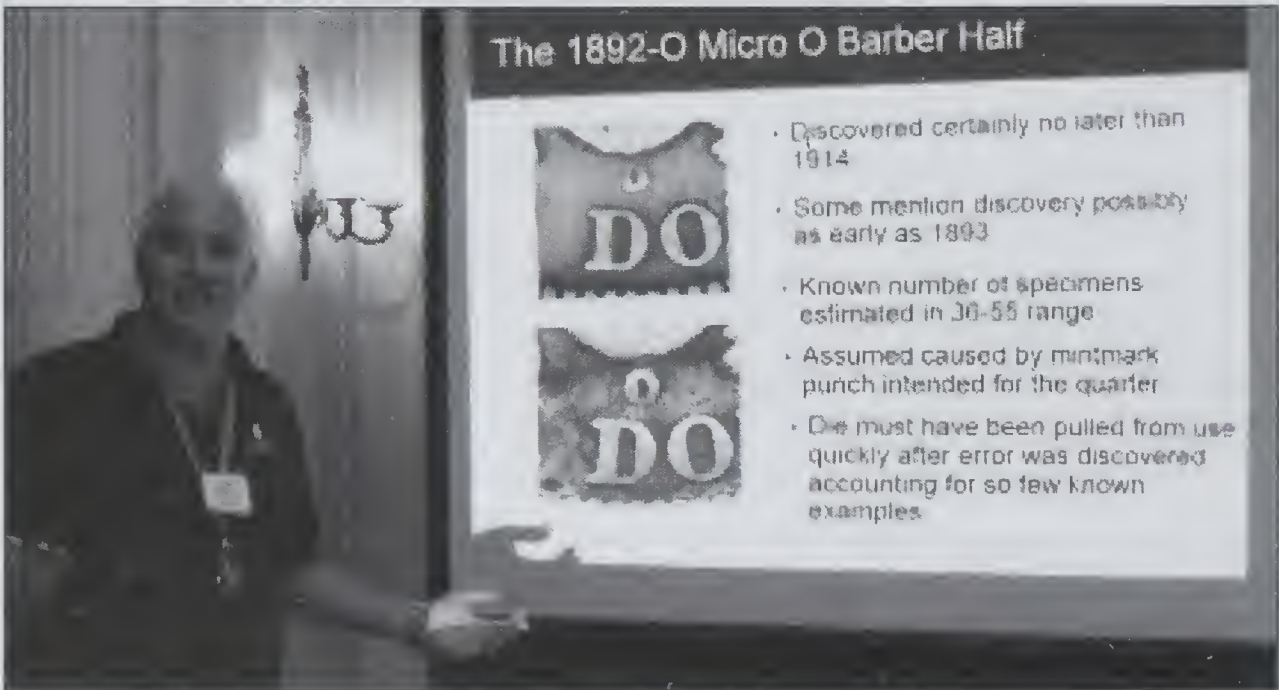
**Gettysburg's** inaugural National Battlefield Coin Show, also in September, gave the BCCS the opportunity to have a club table, and to also present an educational session. The show was well attended Saturday, but not as well Sunday, due to four regional NFL teams having 1:00 games! Next year's show will be Thursday-Saturday, leaving Sunday to football fans and dealers attending their local shows.

October brought the **NH Coin Expo**, with both a BCCS club table and educational programs. The meeting was attended by more than a dozen people, mostly members. This show is one of our successful regular stops.

Next was **Baltimore** where the BCCS had a club table for the first time this year. In the 3 days, we had many people stop by our exhibits. Our meeting

was dedicated to reviewing the proposed By-laws and reviewing BCCS officer nominations for the upcoming election. This meeting was also successfully web cast live to a couple of members, but a technical problem prevented recording the session.

In November, a club table and numerous educational presentations highlighted our first visit to the **Rochester** (NY) Numismatic Association annual show. A new market for us, we introduced the BCCS to a number of people who had never heard of the Society. A lot of fun, and we have been invited to the Buffalo Gold & Silver Expo in April.



At the above mentioned meetings and tables, we signed up a number of new members.



## Upcoming BCCS Events

The beginning of 2015 features a number of events where BCCS will have meetings, club tables, or both. We hope you can stop by if you attend these shows.

- **Orlando, FL**, Florida United Numismatists (FUN) 2015, Orange County Convention Center. Meeting: Friday, January 9, 3:00 p.m.
- **Hot Springs, AR**, Tri-Lakes Coin Show, Hot Springs Convention Center, January 16-18. Club table and educational presentations.
- **Long Beach, CA**, Social Meeting at the Rock Bottom Brewery Thursday, January 29, 7:00 p.m.
- **Willimantic, CT**, Mansfield Numismatic Society Annual Show, Prospect School, March 22. Club table.
- **Baltimore, MD**, Baltimore Expo, Baltimore Convention Center, March 26-28 (Club table). Meeting: Friday, 3:00 p.m.
- **Marlboro, MA**, Bay State Coin Show, Best Western Royal Plaza, April 17-18. Club table.
- **Dalton, GA**, Georgia Numismatic Assoc. Annual Show, NW GA Convention Center, April 17-19. Club table.
- **Schaumburg, IL**, Central States Numismatic Society, Renaissance Convention Center, April 22-25. Club table – tentative.

### BCCS Advertisement Rates

|                                  |                  |                    |
|----------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
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| 1/4 page                         | 1 issue.....\$20 | 4 issues.....\$70  |
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# Barber Coin Collectors' Society

1. Promotes the writing and sharing of information on Barber coins to an organization of individuals who are interested in increasing their knowledge of the series; for Society purposes, Barber coins are defined as primarily U.S. dimes, quarters and half dollars designed by Charles E. Barber, and minted from 1892 to 1916.
2. Gives Barber hobbyists an opportunity to contact other collectors with similar numismatic interests.
3. Can promote consistent grading standards among collectors, dealers, society members and non-members alike.
4. Through group purchasing power, can offer its members discounts on numismatic materials relating especially to the collecting of Barber coins.
5. Provides members a means to trade their Barbers with other members, in an effort to upgrade or complete their collection.
6. Effectively lobbies numismatic shows and events to provide Barber exhibits and space for all Barber dealers to sell their merchandise.
7. Promotes the collecting of Barbers and the hobby in general to today's youngsters.
8. Offers benefit to all Barber collectors, whether they collect Barber dimes, quarters or halves, graded AG or MS65+.
9. Makes sure its members have a say in the organization.
10. Is a not-for-profit organization dedicated solely to the benefit of its members and those who assist the Society in advancing its purpose.



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